CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An illuminated wine chiller, for chilling a bottle of wine, comprising:

a housing, the housing having a substantially translucent shell having an inside surface, an outside surface, a top surface, and an interior cavity extending downward from the top surface, the interior cavity for containing the bottle of wine vertically therein and surrounding the bottle of wine with a quantity of ice; and

an illumination light source, located within the shell, the illumination light source producing light for causing the shell to glow.

2. The illuminated wine chiller as recited in claim 1, wherein the illumination light source is capable of producing illumination light of different colors, to cause the shell to glow in different colors.

3. The illuminated wine chiller as recited in claim 2, wherein the illumination light source has individually controllable red, green, and blue LEDs, such that varying the intensity of the LEDs

varies the color of the illumination light emanating from the shell.

4. The illuminated wine chiller as recited in claim 2, further comprising a remote control, the remote control having a keypad, the remote control allowing a user to vary the color of the illumination light using the keypad.

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5. An illuminated wine chilling method, for chilling a bottle of wine using ice and using a wine chiller having a substantially translucent shell having an internal illumination source, the shell having an outer surface, a top surface, an interior cavity extending downward from the top surface, an interior surface surrounding the interior cavity, comprising the steps of:

(a) placing the bottle of wine vertically within the interior cavity;

(b) chilling the wine bottle by surrounding the wine bottle with ice by filling the interior cavity with ice; and

(c) illuminating the shell with colored illumination light by activating the internal illumination source.

6. The illuminated wine chilling method as recited in claim 5, wherein the step of illuminating the shell with colored light

further comprises controlling the color of the colored illumination light by the user.

7. The illuminated wine chilling method as recited in claim 6, further using a remote control having a keypad, wherein the step of controlling the color of the illumination light further comprises issuing commands by the remote control by the user operating the keypad of the remote control.

8. The illuminated wine chilling method as recited in claim 5, wherein the chiller has a control unit in communication with the illumination source, and wherein the method further comprises the step of automatically changing the color of the illumination light by the control unit.

9. The illuminated wine chilling method as recited in claim 8, wherein the illumination source has individually controllable red, green, and blue LEDs; and wherein the step of changing the color of illumination light further comprises varying the relative intensity of the red, green, and blue LEDs.